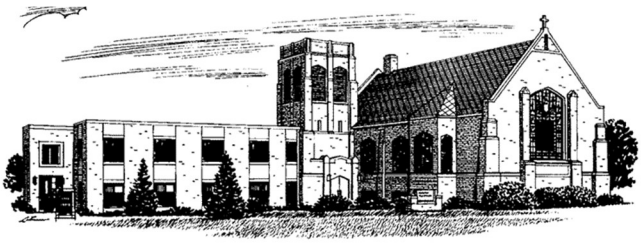
# SARON MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Saron Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)
510 Main Street
St. Joseph, Michigan 49085



Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email: info@saronlutheran.org
Phone: 269-983-1273
Facebook:www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph

**The Rev. Joan Oleson, Pastor**
**Home: 269-983-2475**
**Email: oleson@saronlutheran.org**

Marcus Roll, Music Director
Email: roll1mc@gmail.com

Irma Gorman, Organist

Amanda Bradley, Admin Assistant
Cell: 419-306-5780
Email: info@saronlutheran.org
bradley717@gmail.com

Megan Savage, Bookkeeper
Email: financial@saronlutheran.org

Sara Porter, Childcare Specialist
Email: portersara20@gmail.com

**Typical Sunday at Saron:**

Fall, Winter and Spring (began Sept 10):
8:30am Worship On-Location
9:40am Learning Hour for Ages 3-Adult
11am Worship with Zoom Option
Nursery Available

Summer (begins May 26, 2024):
10am Worship
On-Location and via Zoom
Nursery Available
No Learning Hour

*We hold in prayer:*
*The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton,*
*Presiding Bishop, ELCA*
*The Rev. Dr. Craig Satterlee, Bishop of the*
*North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA*
*The Episcopal Diocese of Western MI*

*Our Companion Synods:*
*Christian Lutheran Church of Honduras*
*Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea*
*Lutheran Church of Latvia*
Saron's Mission: *Joyfully sharing God's love for all!!*

## PASTOR JOAN'S ARTICLE FOR DECEMBER 2023

I've just returned from a seminar/retreat in Santa Fe, NM, focusing on the "art of walking." Put on by "The Cedar Tree Institute" of Marquette, MI, it was a time to quietly explore and meditate on the spirituality of walking. There were opportunities for short and long walks, as well as visiting pilgrimage and historical sites. Attended by clergy and lay persons of various denominations and faith traditions, we received insights about the rich tradition of pilgrimages from Christian, Jewish, Buddhist and Native American perspectives. I hope to share some of those insights in the weeks ahead. We also learned the physical benefits of walking as presented by a physical therapist. Each evening included small group reflection. And, I might add, it was good to do the walking and movement, traveling to and from St. Joseph by Amtrak!

As one who enjoys an hour walk most mornings, I hope this seminar will allow me to be more intentional and reflective in the spiritual aspect of the walk, as well as to take time throughout the day to pause and not always rush from one activity to the next as I am so prone to do. I begin with the journey of Advent - the walk to Bethlehem. This can be a very busy time and easy to forget to pause along the way and reflect deeply about the incarnation, the coming of our Savior, the path Mary and Joseph walked from the angel's first announcement, all the way to the manger and beyond. I invite you to join me in the walk.

- Pastor Joan

# General Information

## OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Joan
Monday-Thursday Mornings
Amanda Bradley (Admin Assistant):
Mondays & Thursdays 9am-noon
Helping Hands Office Volunteers:
Wednesdays 9:00am-11am (approx)
Megan Savage (Bookkeeper):
Tuesdays & Thursdays 5:30pm

When Pastor is out of town, emergency pastoral care information can be obtained by calling the church office (269/983-1273) or contacting the council president.

Note: Emails for Pastor should be addressed to oleson@saronlutheran.org to ensure privacy. Emails to Amanda and the church office should be sent to info@saronlutheran.org.

# Caring and Sharing

## IN OUR PRAYERS

**Tom Taylor** is at Caretel in St. Joseph;
**John Olson** is at the Willows in St. Joseph.

**Happy Birthday Wishes to Saron's Members!**

12/2 Victor Coar
12/4 Phil Standen
12/5 Alexander Breyen
12/6 Rachael Johnson
12/7 Adam Maly
12/8 Lee Carter
12/9 Piper Gray-Roll
12/9 Janet Taylor
12/11 Robert Deaton
12/12 Cynthia Brown
12/12 Edward Brunner
12/13 Eric Standen
12/13 Deb Standen
12/14 Finnegan Gray-Roll
12/16 Grace Hicks
12/16 Charles Pater
12/16 Caden Zwar
12/18 Heather Pudell
12/21 K.T. Alexander
12/27 Oliver Fortenbacher
12/29 Paxton Zwar
12/31 Kristen Harper

**Happy Anniversary Wishes to Saron's Members!**

12/18 Dennis & Colleen Lundgren
12/18 Heather & Steve Pudell
12/26 Brian & Marybeth Culverhouse
12/29 Edmund & Claudia Staude
12/30 Judy & Mark Wedde

***"God's Blessings for a very happy day and year round!"***

If there are any omissions from the birthday or anniversary list, or if a date is incorrect, please let us know so we can get it correct in the future!

## CONGRATULATIONS

We are happy to announce the marriage of **Drew Huff & Celeste Black!** The wedding took place on Saturday, October 21, at the beautiful Sundance in Millburg, Michigan. They are currently residing in Detroit. Congratulations, Drew & Celeste!

On November 12, we were excited to welcome Elizabeth Gaspari to the acolyte guild! On November 27, Frederico Herrmann was trained. Elijah Nicholas will also join in the coming weeks. It's been several years since we've had a new acolyte so this is a big deal!

FORTIFY & fly

As we get ever closer to wrapping up this incredible, multi-year endeavor, we are focusing on items remaining on our priority list such as additional indoor and outdoor improvements, which could include potential signage, lighting, and painting projects.

As always, thank you for being with us on this journey and know that we will keep you informed until all projects are complete and all the money has been responsibly spent.

# Worship

**SENSORY BAGS**

As part of extending an unconditional welcome to all, we now have Sensory Bags available for use during worship or at other times when helpful. These bags contain a variety of fidgets that can help someone feel more able to sit quietly and/or focus. We also have noise canceling headphones for those who are sound sensitive. These brightly colored bags can be found in the narthex.

**PRAYER GROUP**

You are invited to offer your prayer petitions (concerns or thanksgivings) via our attendance cards each Sunday. Requests can also be made confidentially online via a link in our Thursday mailings. You may include as much detail as you wish. Requests are then given to the Monday prayer group. **You are also invited to be part of the Monday group at 11am.** We follow a simple format of morning prayer and insert the petitions and prayers for Saron's ministry and the world. You don't even have to pray aloud, if you would prefer to pray quietly. Most weeks we are done in 30 minutes. If you want to know more about this ministry, please contact Pastor Joan.

**ZOOM COFFEE HOUR**

We will continue the Wednesday Zoom Coffee Hour at 11am as long as there is interest. All are welcome!

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

Sponsor a week by using the link in the weekly email or by contacting the church office. Please note any occasion/thanksgiving to be recognized in the bulletin. Flowers are $35 per vase. Checks are payable to Saron with "Flowers" as the memo. Take them home to enjoy then **simply return the vase to Saron.**

**FACEBOOK**

We often share pictures of Saron's ministry on our Facebook page. We do not put names with the pictures. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Pastor.

Nursery service is available during worship. In order to utilize the space most effectively, this option is primarily directed towards our youngest members and guests. For preschoolers that need more physical and/or emotional space, activities are available in the narthex, including clipboards with coloring pages and children's bulletins. **It's vital to embrace family units in all stages and as such, we gladly welcome wiggles and giggles in worship!**

The goal of the nursery is to provide a safe environment to facilitate a meaningful worship experience for families. We recognize that may not look the same for all and encourage sharing concerns and suggestions.

**We are always looking for additional helpers to share the load. Contact Marilyn Lucy (269/759-3464) with questions or interest.**

**SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS**

As you prepare for worship, you are invited to read and reflect on the Scriptures for the day.

**December 3: 1st Sunday of Advent**
Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37

**December 10: 2nd Sunday of Advent**
Isaiah 40:1-11
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
2 Peter 3:8-15
Mark 1:1-8

**December 17: 3rd Sunday of Advent**
Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
Psalm 126
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28

**December 24: 4th Sunday of Advent**
2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
Luke 1:46b-55
Romans 16:25-27
Luke 1:26-38

**December 31: 1st Sunday of Christmas**
Isaiah 61:10-62:3
Psalm 148
Galatians 4:4-7
Luke 2:22-40

Our youth group (middle school and high school kids) typically meets once per month after the late service for food, fun and fellowship. Watch your email for more information on the next gathering. Friends are always welcome!

**Contact Scott at scottgaspari@outlook.com with any questions or to be added to the email list.**

# Learning

Saron is a congregation seeking to become more fluent in the first language of faith, the language of Scripture, in order that we might live into our calling as a people renewed, enlivened, empowered and sent by the Word.

We have many educational options to fit your needs and schedule. Always feel welcome to join us, at any time and for as many sessions as works for you.

**SUNDAY LEARNING HOUR**

**Our program year is underway.** We have opportunities for many ages and stages!

The Sunday Learning Hour (9:40am-10:30am) offers the following options:

- Preschool - Grade 5: Sunday School
- Grades 6-8: Confirmation Classes
- High School - Adult: Adult Forum

**TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY**

While we had planned to finish our current study of the Old Testament book of Job before Advent, we've had a lot to discuss and we're not quite done. So, we plan to cover the last chapter of the study book, "Job – Trusting God in Suffering," **on Tuesday, December 5**. Then we will break for Advent before starting back with a new study on **January 2**. Hope you can join us!

We meet **Tuesday evenings at 6pm** in the upstairs lounge for one hour then adjourn to a local restaurant for food and fellowship. **All are welcome!**

**If you have any questions, feel free to call, text, or email:**
**Bob Kynast (269-921-2786, bobkynast@gmail.com)**
**Don Hafer (269-985-3637, hafer.don@gmail.com)**

**THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY**

**We are breaking for Advent, returning in January!**

**All are welcome to this study, which meets Thursdays from 9:30am-11am in the upstairs lounge. You can join in at any time, for one session or many. Questions? Contact Pastor Joan.**

**We are breaking for Advent, returning in January!**

**We typically meet at 7pm in the church lounge on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Contact Ed Staude at 636/288-1016 with any questions. All are welcome!**

We will finish the year on December 3rd at 6:30pm in the lounge, talking about "The Thursday Murder Club" (book one of four) by Richard Osman. It's soon to be a movie by Steven Spielberg. Four very different septuagenarians living in an upscale retirement community come together to sleuth and find out whodunit. Intelligent, witty and an homage to getting older.

We are taking a break then will come back together on February 4 to discuss "Second Glance" by Jodi Picoult. An astonishing story of love, fate, a crime of passion, the Abenaki Indian Tribe, and Vermont's eugenics projects of the 1920's and 1930's, plus so much more.

Please join us for both meetings and a season of good reading, good discussions, and good fellowship. You are welcome anytime**. Contact Kathy Cowall (269) 428-0354 or kcowall@hotmail.com** if you want to receive email updates, reminders and Zoom information.

*A library is not a luxury but one of the necessities of life.*
- Henry Ward Beecher

# Women of the ELCA

**SARON CHURCH WOMEN**

**Saron Church Women will be having a bake sale in the church narthex on Sunday, December 10 after both services.**

Proceeds will be divided equally among Samaritas (LSSM), Benton Harbor Readiness Center, and Lori's Place. Please bring a baked item or items and, hopefully, make a purchase. This would be a good time to make Christmas treats. It is extremely helpful if you label your treat donation and note any potential allergens. Also, cakes and pies tend to sell faster when cut into plated serving pieces.

**We will continue to collect monetary donations on the following Sunday, December 17.** Thank you in advance for your support. It is very much appreciated!

**DEBORAH CIRCLE**

We will **NOT** meet in December**.** January 10, 2024 is the date for our Christmas Party at the home of Linda Pater. Details will be available closer to that time.

**If you have any questions,**
**contact Melanie at 269/449-8399.**

# Hospitality

**SUNDAY SNACKS**

Who doesn't love a snack during a time of fellowship in the narthex? If you would like to be a Sunday snack host, sign up via the link in our weekly email or call/email the office so Amanda can sign you up. Please plan for 30 to partake. Thank you!

# Outreach

**BENTON HARBOR SOUP KITCHEN**

*Simple food, honestly sourced and lovingly made, creates connections, gives fuel to the fight, and starves ignorance and apathy.* -Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen

On November 23rd, the Thanksgiving meal was provided to the Soup Kitchen by Grand Mere Inn. Desserts were donated by Keith Stevens in memory of his wife Jan, who was the coordinator of Saron's meal at the Soup Kitchen for many years. Thanks, Keith!

**If you are able to help with the preparation and serving, or by providing cookies, please use the link in the weekly email or contact Kathie Bradley at 269-921-4665.**

Thank you to all who continue to support this ministry with your time, contributions, and prayers.
*Joyfully sharing God's love for all!*

**RAKING LEAVES TO WARM HEARTS**

As part of fundraising for the upcoming ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July 2024, several of our teens participated in a sponsored service project. They, along with some helpers from Saron and their friends, filled 55+ bags of leaves for a single father and school teacher with a special needs son. What a blessing they were to this family!

**Special shout-out to Jim Manore, Steve and Kristen Bell, Kristen Harper and Amanda Bradley for helping Mia Bradley, Alaina Bradley, and Brooke Henderson get this big project done!**

**NOISY OFFERING**

We receive a noisy offering
(or those not-so-noisy bills)
on the first Sunday of each month.
These gifts are sent to
ELCA World Hunger.

Thank you for your continued support!

**INCLUSIVITY TASK FORCE**

The Inclusivity Task Force is committed to extending a welcome to all. Our congregation adopted the following welcome statement and is a **Reconciling in Christ** church.

**As a community of faith who *joyfully shares God's love for all*, we believe our lives and faith are strengthened by diversity. We strive to be a community who welcomes people of every ability, age, citizenship status, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, language, marital status, political perspective, race, and sexual orientation. We are committed to the work of racial equity. Whatever life's circumstance, we openly welcome and value you. We celebrate God's unconditional love and respond joyfully to your presence here. All are welcome. You are welcome.**

If you ever have any questions or need clarification on our inclusivity journey, please feel free to call any one of the task force members:

Connor Ashley: cashley1837@outlook.com
Laurel Gacek: 269/470-6062 or mlmg2445@sbcglobal.net
Laura Hicks: 517/930-0579 or lhicks42@gmail.com
Darlene Kiessel: 269/313-4062 or kiessel@me.com
Pr Joan Oleson: 269/983-1273 or oleson@saronlutheran.org
Lindsay Gaspari: 847/373-8826 or lindsay.gaspari@yahoo.com

Interfaith Action

Interfaith Action (swmichiganinterfaith.org) is a coalition of over 40 faith communities in Allegan, Berrien, Cass, St. Joseph, and Van Buren Counties. Some members of Saron attend meetings and work with various task force groups. One of the goals of Interfaith Action is to promote understanding and respect for diversity.

**The first step in getting involved, is getting informed. Register to receive their communications at https://swmichinterfaith.org/contact1**

# Support

The Support Committee typically meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 8pm via Zoom. Contact Don Hafer with any questions at 269/985-3637.

**STOCK DONATIONS**

Saron partners with TD Ameritrade, a brokerage firm, to accept stock donations. If you would like to donate stock, email Joe Ulrey at josephulrey@yahoo.com to receive more information. Thanks!

# Facilities

**HELPING HANDS (Previously Golden Hammers)**

We do all sorts of things from building maintenance to preps for worship in the sanctuary to assembling bulletins and newsletters and so much more. We meet on Wednesdays around 9am and know you are invited – whatever your age, gender, or ability. There is a job for you to use your helping hands.

**THANK YOU!**

We express our sincere gratitude to all those that took turns mowing our grass during the growing season. This commitment to taking care of our grounds internally saves us a substantial amount of money over hiring a lawncare service. If you would like to part of the rotation next year, watch for a sign-up sheet towards spring.

We also wish to thank all those that showed up on the morning of Saturday, November 4, to help transition our property for the upcoming winter months. Fall clean-up is no joke, often taking place in cold and windy conditions, and the people of Saron do what it takes to keep our grounds looking sharp! The surrounding community appreciates our efforts just as much as our congregants.

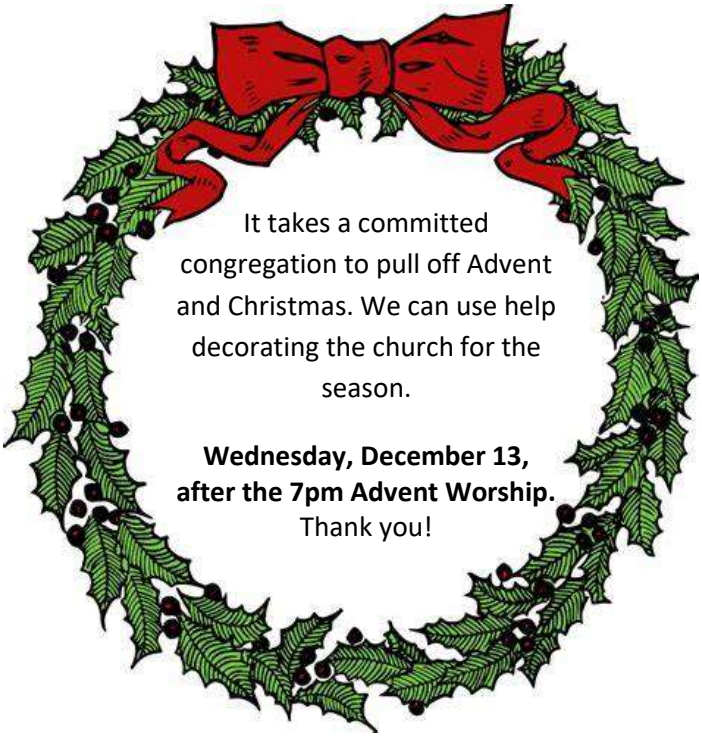
# Other Bits of News

**BURIAL PLOTS AVAILABLE**

Are you, or someone you love, in need of a burial plot? Saron has been gifted with two adult plots, which can be divided, at **North Shore Memory Garden in Coloma**, as well as a niche for two end-to-end caskets in the Mausoleum. We are offering these at a reduced current value with proceeds going to the Endowment Fund. If interested, or you have questions, contact **Liz Kunkel (269/429-1132) or Pastor.**

## JOB OPPORTUNITY

Our financial secretary/bookkeeper, Megan, will be moving as her job has changed locations. Her plan is to help with the transition by training someone new to fill her position at Saron, making the year-end go smoothly. Do you or someone you know want to apply for the position? Contact Pastor Joan or Merrily Smith for more details. The position is part-time, presently a few hours each week, depending on the season.


It takes a committed congregation to pull off Advent and Christmas. We can use help decorating the church for the season.
**Wednesday, December 13, after the 7pm Advent Worship.**
Thank you!

Monday Musical Club formally invites Saron to join us in welcoming in the Christmas season on

**Sunday, December 3**
**3:45pm**
**First Congregational Church**
**2001 Niles Avenue in St Joseph**

At our 92nd Vespers, our chorus will sing a variety of Christmas music under the direction of Steve Zork. You will also be inspired by a special reading and enjoy organ and harpsichord performances. While this free performance is our gift to you and your loved ones, all donations will be given to the local Goodfellow fund.

## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

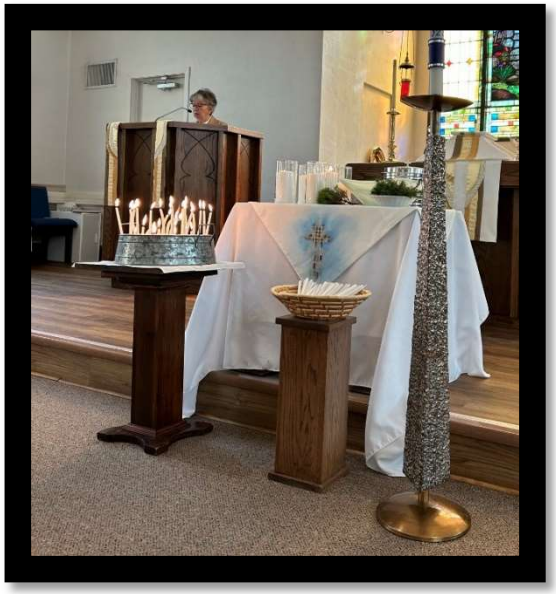
You do not want to miss our annual Youth Christmas Service on **December 17 at 11am.**

WARNING: the cuteness may be overwhelming!

## Annual Meeting

Mark your calendar for **January 28, 2024**! We will join together to hear council and committee reports, approve the 2024 spending plan, elect new council members, and more! Watch for details in the January Newsletter and future emails.

Reformation Sunday



All Saint's Sunday

Oktoberfest celebration on Commitment Sunday. Yum!

"Gratitude Tree" - a visual representation of our Connecting with God stewardship season.

# Wintertime Thoughts on Stewardship

*I will praise your name, O God, in song; I will proclaim your greatness with thanksgiving.*
Psalm 69:30

STEWARDS
IN ALL SEASONS

To reiterate the **Thank You!** included in the November newsletter, we sincerely appreciate all the hard work that went into the fall 2023 "Connecting with God" stewardship season. It took many people and many hours to pull off the weekly devotions, the Stewardship Moments during Sunday services, the question-of-the-week tree and Facebook posts, the indoor, outdoor, and take-home prayer labyrinths, the Oktoberfest celebration, and more.

And it was worth the effort because of **YOU**, the participants! Thank you all for sharing in this journey and for your generous commitments to contribute time, talents, and treasures to Saron during 2024. This congregation's willingness to be open and vulnerable is extraordinary. We are more connected to each other and to God than ever before!

But as we noted last year, stewardship is not just a season. It's a way-of-life. Our individual view of our obligation to be a good steward of all that God has given us essentially dictates how we live our lives. Yes, stewardship manifests itself in each of our daily priorities, choices, and actions.

"It's all about gratitude; It's all about giving back; It's all about God." While all these characteristics of stewardship are important and interrelated, for fall 2023 we chose to emphasize "gratitude." Thanking God for all the gifts we have been given – so that we can then generously share them with others – is a key part of stewardship. Perhaps it's even the most important part, because the act of thanking God encourages us to "give back" and to recognize that it really is "all about God."

Every week in response to, "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God," we dutifully respond, "It is right to give our thanks and praise." But do we do it often enough? Are we sincere? If you need an incentive to show gratitude to God on a regular basis, keep this question in mind . . .

**What if you woke up today with only the things you thanked God for yesterday?**

*Stewardship is what we do after we say we believe.*

_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____

If you would like to make a stewardship commitment to God and Saron but did not have an opportunity to do so earlier, it's never too late. Stewardship is a way-of-life and a year-round thing. There are additional forms in the narthex or contact the church office if you need one mailed/emailed. Thank you!

# ♫ It's -ginning to look a lot like . . . ♫ *ELCA Good Gifts!*

Yes, Advent is here with Christmas soon to follow! Our ELCA Good Gifts tree is back in the Narthex, loaded with ornaments. Last year, Saron sponsored 25 goats, 10 piglets, 17 honeybee colonies, and 32 broods of chicks as part of the animal Christmas tree ornament program. Way to go! Our program joins with many other worldwide humanitarian efforts to provide appropriate agricultural resources where they are most needed to help vulnerable communities fight food insecurity and famine. (Look back at the November newsletter for more info on this worthwhile program.)

**How can you help?**

This year, from Advent (December 3rd) through the first Sunday after Epiphany (January 7th), you will have the opportunity to make donations for animal Christmas tree ornaments that will allow the ELCA to purchase and deliver the animal(s) of your choice to where it (they) will do the most good. We are again focusing on four animal ornaments, but not just for simplicity. These four are best for the environment and will provide the most help to struggling families:

*Goat – $50*
Goats can go where other animals can't, surviving in some of the world's most challenging terrain.

*Piglet – $30*
Pigs provide natural fertilizer that helps crops grow tall and strong.

*Honeybees – $20*
Honeybees provide honey to eat and sell and **are essential to crop growth by pollinating plants**.

*Chicks – $10*
Eggs not only provide an ongoing supply of protein-rich meals – they can also help start a small business and generate a steady source of income.

While all four animals make worthy gifts, the smallest of these may have the biggest impact. So, when making your decisions this year, don't forget the honeybees! Think how nice <u>six</u> honeybee ornaments would look on your tree, and how much good those bees would do.

*So, you choose . . . To or not to ?*

**Look for an order form with instructions in the bulletin each week during Advent.**

As members of the ELCA, we believe that God is calling us into the world – together. And with generous, loving hands, we can make a difference. ELCA Good Gifts is your opportunity to provide critical support to the ministries and programs that mean the most to you and the people you love. *Saron Outreach*

*"You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God."* 2 Corinthians 9:11

# DECEMBER 2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **3**<br>**1st Sunday in Advent**<br>8:30am Worship<br>9:40am Learning Hour<br>11am Worship with Choir & Zoom Option | **4**<br>11am Prayer Group | **5**<br>6pm Bible Study | **6**<br>9am Helping Hands<br>11am Zoom Coffee<br>6:15pm Soup Supper<br>7pm Advent Worship | **7**<br>6pm Bells Rehearsal<br>7pm Choir Rehearsal | **1/8** | **2/9** |
| **10**<br>**2nd Sunday in Advent**<br>8:30am Worship<br>9:40am Learning Hour<br>11am Worship with Choir & Zoom Option | **11**<br>11am Prayer Group | **12**<br>8pm Support Meeting | **13**<br>9am Helping Hands<br>11am Zoom Coffee<br>6:15pm Soup Supper<br>7pm Advent Worship with **Decorating** after | **14**<br>6pm Bells Rehearsal<br>7pm Choir Rehearsal | **15** | **16** |
| **17**<br>**3rd Sunday in Advent**<br>8:30am Worship<br>9:40am Learning Hour<br>11am **Youth Christmas Service** with Zoom Option | **18**<br>11am Prayer Group<br>7pm Church Council | **19** | **20**<br>9am Helping Hands<br>11am Zoom Coffee<br>6:15 Soup Supper<br>7pm Advent Worship with **Carol Sing-Along** immediately following | **21**<br>6pm Bells Rehearsal<br>7pm Choir Rehearsal | **22** | **23** |
| **24**<br>**CHRISTMAS EVE**<br>8:30am Worship<br>NO Learning Hour<br>11am Worship w/Zoom<br>7pm Worship w/Zoom<br>10pm Worship w/Zoom | **25**<br>**CHRISTMAS DAY**<br>10am Worship with Zoom option | **26** | **27** | **28** | **29** | **30** |
| **31**<br>**New Year's Eve**<br>8:30am Worship<br>NO Learning Hour<br>11am Worship with Choir & Zoom Option | | | | | | |

SARON LUTHERAN CHURCH
510 MAIN STREET
ST. JOSEPH, MI 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email:info@saronlutheran.org

A Congregation of:
The North/West Lower Michigan Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER**

# SARON LUTHERAN CHURCH 2023 ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

## WEDNESDAYS, DECEMBER 6, 13 & 20

"Tales from the Stable"
Advent Soup Suppers at 6;15pm with Worship at 7pm
On-location & via Zoom

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

Youth Christmas Service at 11am
"The Christmas Journey"
On-location & via Zoom

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

Sunday Worship at 8:30am & 11am
Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship at 7pm & 10pm (No Childcare)
Except 8:30am, all services will also be available via Zoom

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

Christmas Day Worship at 10am
On-location & via Zoom
No Childcare

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

New Year's Eve Sunday Worship at 8:30am & 11am
On-location & via Zoom (11am)